

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

DANIEL J FOREST LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

March 18, 2014

Marlene H. Dortch Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12th St, SW Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Notice of Ex Parte presentation in WC 13-184

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On Tuesday, March 18, 2014, several representatives of the State of North Carolina met with Chairman Wheeler, Jon Wilkins-Acting Managing Director to the Chairman and Daniel Alvarez-Legal Advisor to the Chairman.

The State of North Carolina representatives included:

- The Honorable Dan Forest, Lieutenant Governor of North Carolina
- The Honorable June Atkinson, Ed.D., State Superintendent of Schools, North Carolina
- Mike Ozburn, Assistant to the North Carolina Office of the State Chief Information Officer
- Jamey Falkenbury, Lt. Governor of North Carolina Director of Operations
- Virginia Johnson, Director North Carolina Governor Pat McCrory, DC office
- Phil Emer, Director of Technology, Friday Institute for Educational Innovation
- Barry Pace, E-Rate Coordinator, North Carolina Department of Public Instruction
- Ioe Freddoso, President and CEO MCNC
- Ryan Hart, Legislative Aide to Senator Richard Burr

The North Carolina team outlined the success of the North Carolina School Connectivity Initiative that has resulted in all K-12 public school districts and 95% of all K-12 public schools in the state possessing fiber optic connections to a statewide education backbone network, to advanced research networks such as Internet2 and to the commercial Internet. The North Carolina team explained the state statute (Session Law 2013-12) that requires a transition to all digital course materials in K-12 public education by school year 2017-2018. The North Carolina

team expressed that while scalable fiber connections to schools were for the most part complete (97% plus come 2014-15), and while there may be a high percentage of wireless coverage, in fact over 50% of school local area networks (LAN) and inbuilding wireless LANs are inadequate for the robust digital teaching and learning we endeavor to have in place in North Carolina's schools by 2017–18.

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The North Carolina team expressed a desire to work with Commissioner and staff to address in-building connectivity issues that are highlighted in E-Rate Notice of Proposed Rule making.

Further information is contained in the attached powerpoint materials that were distributed at the meeting.

Sincerely,

The Honorable Dan Forest

Lieutenant Governor State of North Carolina